

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : **10/698,851** Confirmation No. **9321**  
Applicant : **Surya Varanasi, et al.**  
Filed : **October 31, 2003**  
TC/A.U. : **2416**  
Examiner : **Farah Faroul**  
Docket No. : **112-0135US**  
Customer No. : **85197**  
Title : **FRAME TRAFFIC BALANCING ACROSS TRUNK GROUPS**

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed to request reconsideration of to the Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) for Patent No. 7,619,974 issued 17 November 2009. A fee for this Petition is filed herewith. Applicant further believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this Petition. However, should any fees or refunds be due, the Office is authorized to charge or credit such fees or refunds to Deposit Account No. 501922, referencing attorney docket number 112-0135US.

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.

## REMARKS

Applicants have received an Issue Notification and a Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154(b), for issued Patent No. 7,619,974 with issue date 17 November 2009, for the above referenced application. The calculated Patent Term Adjustment (PTA) is indicated as 1113 days. However, Applicants believe the calculated term adjustment should be 1782 days rather than the 1113 days indicated for the following reasons.

As currently codified, 35 U.S.C. § 154(b) provides three guarantees of patent term, two of which are at issue here. The first is found in subsection (b)(1)(A), the "[g]uarantee of prompt Patent and Trademark Office response." It provides a one-day extension of patent term for every day that issuance of a patent is delayed by a failure of the PTO to comply with various enumerated statutory deadlines: fourteen months for a first office action; four months to respond to a reply; four months to issue a patent after the fee is paid; and the like. *See* 35 U.S.C. § 154(b)(1)(A)(i)-(iv). Periods of delay that fit under this provision are called "A delays" or "A periods." The second provision is the "[g]uarantee of no more than 3-year application pendency." Under this provision, a one-day term extension is granted for every day greater than three years after the filing date that it takes for the patent to issue, regardless of whether the delay is the fault of the PTO. <sup>1</sup> *See* 35 U.S.C. § 154(b)(1)(B). The period that begins after the three-year window has closed is referred to as the "B delay" or the "B period". ("C delays," delays resulting from interferences, secrecy orders, and appeals, are similarly treated but were not involved in the patent applications underlying this suit.)

*Wyeth v. Dudas*, Civ. Action No. 1:07-cv-1492-JR, 2008 WL 4445642 D.D.C. affirmed in *Wyeth v. Kappos*, (Fed. Cir. 2010) decided 7 January 2010.

The pertinent dates for calculating the PTA for this case are as follows:

- 1) 10/31/2003 Application filing date;
- 2) 10/31/2006 three years from filing (start of B time calculation);
- 3) 10/15/2007 mailing date of first Office Action;
- 4) 11/17/2009 Issue date of Patent 7,619,974.

There are several categories of time calculation set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.703 under subheadings a-g. The pertinent subheading in this instance are “a” (A-Time) and “b” (B-Time). Applicants note that A-Time and B-Time are not allowed to overlap.

#### **A-Time Calculation**

The time period set forth under 37 C.F.R. 1.703(a), A-Time, allows fourteen months from the filing date for the Office to issue a first Office Action. The 14 month date in this case was 12/31/2004 and the first office action was not mailed until 10/15/2007. The A-Time allocated before the first Office Action is calculated as the duration between 12/31/2004 (14 month date) and 10/31/2006 (Start of B-Time calculation). This duration is **669 days**. There are no other periods of A-Time to consider in this case.

#### **B-Time Calculation**

The time period set forth under 37 C.F.R. 1.703(b), B-Time, allows for 3 years pendency of an application. In the instant case, this is represented by the duration between 10/31/2006 (3 years from filing) and 11/17/2009 (Issue date of Patent). This time period represents **1113 days**.

#### **Conclusion**

A-Time of 669 days plus B-Time of 1113 days, with no delays attributable to Applicants, results in the correct calculation for PTA being **1782 days**. For the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully requests that the PTA be adjusted to **1782 days** and a Notice of Correction be issued.

\* \* \* \* \*

Respectfully submitted,

/William M. Hubbard/

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